



Michelle Kordis played a maid and is also the co-founder of the Gurnet Theatre Project.

'The Illusion' Draws a Crowd

By MORAG MacLACHLAN

The wooded area bordering the Myles Standish monument came alive this weekend. An outdoor theater performance of "The Illusion" by the Gurnet Theatre Project captivated the audience of about 100 people on Saturday night.

"The Illusion" was originally written by Pierre

Corneille and later adapted by Tony Kushner. Director Brian Fahey said this is one of the first times he has seen the space used for a play production. This is the project's first performance and Fahey was excited about the number of people in attendance.

"It went very, very well,"

continued on page 10

"The Illusion" Draws a Crowd

continued from page one

The entire cast hails from Duxbury. Fahey said most of the cast has either studied theater or plans to study theater in the future. He says being in the play will help enhance their resumes.

"No one is getting paid to be in the production," he said. "They do it for the experience and the fun of it."

Dan Frongillo played the Pridamant of Avignon on a mission to locate his son. He enlists the help of magician Alcandre played by Duxbury High senior Jessica Bartlett. Peter Collins, 18, brought the role of the estranged son to life. The object of his affection was played by Kristen Schnibbe. Her scheming maid was played by Michelle Kordis, who co-founded the Gurnet Theatre Project with Fahey.

Kevin Kordis, Alex Lewis, Kayleigh MacFarlane round out the cast. To complement the scenes, Carolyn Whipple and Lija Treibergs played the oboe.

The cast performed "The Illusion" four times beginning on Thursday. The play centers around the Pridamant of Avignon as he is shown visions of his estranged son by the magician Alcandre.

In the visions, the Pridamant sees his son vic for the hand of a wealthy maiden, kill another suitor and lose his life after he's caught with the prince's wife. Thinking his son is dead, the Pridamant starts to cry, an act that is foreign to him.

Once he shows that he is able to feel, it is revealed to him that all of the visions

have been illusions. His son experienced all of these events, but only as a part of his profession. He is actually working as an actor in Paris and these visions have been scenes from his plays. It's a twist Fahey says the audience enjoyed.

"We've had tremendous feedback," he said. "People thought the production was great and they loved the use of the space."

The play used comedy to address serious issues like the alienation of parents from children and marital infidelity. Performing comedies with serious undertones is a trend Fahey hopes to continue.

"We hope to set a tradition," he said.

The next production of "Waiting for Godot" is set to open this fall.



Brian Fahey a 2000 graduate of DHS, cofounded the project and directed "The Illusion."



Kevin Kordis a 2002 graduate of DHS, played the character Matamore, who wished to travel to the moon.



The magician Alcandre, played by DHS senior Jessica Bartlett, is able to conjure visions of the past.



Crowds between 75 and 100 people gathered at the Myles Standish Monument for the production.